

called in question. It should suffice that they gave their money, and the weight of their character, by publicly denouncing slavery. Anti-slavery societies may properly proclaim the sinfulness of sustaining slavery, whether in church or state, by voting or otherwise, but when they undertake to specify candidates, and to point out for whom we shall or shall not vote, they step out of their right province.

By the same rule anti-slavery societies have no right to interfere with the party predilections of the members. They may vote with the old parties, form new ones, or refuse to vote—the societies have no right to interfere. On this principle I am for an anti-slavery—a liberty party. I go for it heart and hand. I want no entangling alliances—no joining with the whigs or democrats. I would that its principles should take root downwards and shoot upwards, that it should receive the bracing influences of sun and air, unshaded and unnumbered with the old and corrupt parties, and that it may be so aloof from each of them, that it may not be crushed by the fall of either. It should be to anti-slavery voters, as the cloud by day and the fire by night were to the hosts of Israel. It should be always before and rallying them onward. To the American people it should constantly proclaim: you can abolish slavery by putting small pieces of paper into a box, called the ballot box, with right names on them. Slavery is in your hands; you are sovereign. If it is right and good, God will bless you; if it is evil and a wrong, his thunders will surely roll upon the nation.

As an individual I can say little in favor of petitioning. In our form of government the people are heard principally through the ballot boxes, not in the tone of prayer, but with the potent voice of command. I believe it is the duty of representatives to obey the will of their constituents or resign. In despotic governments petitions are taken as expressions of the will of the people. We must take when we undertake to make the same application here. The representative knows very well who elected him, and most of them would as readily and as faithfully serve anti-slavery voters as they do the pro-slavery electors who choose them. The appeal should be made to the sovereign power, and in this country that is vested in the people. When we appeal to the legislatures and to congress, we only embitter those with whom is the true sovereignty. The people boldly deny their jurisdiction without their consent, and regard us as intermeddlers who are trying to wrest the power out of their hands—who by some hook or crook are trying to set the slaves free without their will and consent. Nicholas of Russia would not like that some of the leading servants of his household should be petitioned on some great reform, and his own name not so much as mentioned, and yet it is thus that abolitionists have to a great extent been proceeding. Although they well know that congress and the state legislatures, in most of the states are instructed by the votes of the people not to grant their petitions, they persist in presenting them. The people regard it as a waste of time, and indignity, and insult to their authority. I go for petitioning the sovereign power—for placing the responsibility and the remedy where they belong. Let those who have a different view of our government petition.

Sincerely yours for man,
ELI NICHOLS.

Nevertheless, let our friends go to work and petition nightly. In many things the sovereign power will sustain us.—Ed. Phil.

THE PHILANTHROPIST.

EDITED BY G. BAILEY, JR.

CINCINNATI,

Wednesday Morning, December 16 1840.

STATE ANTI-SLAVERY CONVENTION.

In accordance with the resolutions of several Abolition societies, and the desire felt, it is presumed, by the Abolitionists of Ohio generally, a State Anti-Slavery Convention will be held at Columbus, Wednesday, the 20th of January, to open at 11 o'clock.

All persons, whether members of Abolition societies or not, who believe in the doctrine of immediate emancipation, and are opposed to voting for pro-slavery candidates for office, are invited to attend. The invitation, it is believed, will embrace nine tenths of the Abolitionists of Ohio. The convention will not be, therefore, a third party, or anti-third party convention. It is not called with a view of deciding upon this question.

With those calling the convention, the first great object of the meeting is, to re-establish harmony and confidence among Abolitionists, thereby placing them in an attitude in which they can make a more decided impression on public sentiment.

And the second great object is, to agree upon some rational, effective plan of anti-slavery political action, to be recommended to our organization throughout the State.

In view of the division of sentiment now existing among the true-hearted friends of the slave, on the question of an independent presidential nomination, and the sensitiveness still felt by some in relation to the past, this question will not be brought up by those calling the convention. They hope that time and future developments will produce ultimate harmony in our views on this point.

The chief political question, to which it is hoped, the attention of the members will be directed, is—

What policy shall the anti-slavery men of Ohio adopt in regard to the election of Governor, members of Congress, and members of the General Assembly?

Taking it for granted, that the great mass of abolition voters in this State, whatever may have been their conduct in what they supposed an extreme case, are really opposed to lending their support to pro-slavery candidates, and that hereafter they will steadily adhere to this principle, it is presumed that the discussion will turn upon the question—Is it best, as a general rule, that anti-slavery citizens should nominate first their own candidates, or use all proper means with their respective parties to effect suitable nominations, and only in the event of a failure on this point, nominate for themselves?

It is by no means intended, however, to confine the discussions of the convention to political topics. Other subjects will occupy a prominent place. Our Black Laws especially, and the

whole system of slavery, in its influences on the general welfare, will receive, doubtless, due attention. In a word, the convention is called with the view of promoting wholesome agitation, increasing light, and combining well-directed and powerful efforts against slavery.

And now, friends; lovers of liberty; ye, who have so often contended shoulder to shoulder, against the violence of pro-slavery mobs, and whose hearts in times past were knit together by the strong ties of pity for the slave, a sublime love of liberty, and a deep concern for your country's honor,—will you not, forgetting your differences of opinion, engage once more, heart and hand, in the mighty movement, to which you devoted yourselves so many years ago, but which of late has been partially supplanted in your affections by party objects? We know you will. Your abatement of zeal has been but for a time. Come then, to the convention at the capital. It will be the first meeting of the kind ever held there. Let it be an epoch in the history of our cause. We know it would grieve you were it said, that you care more for the establishment of a sound currency than for the redemption of the slave.

We cannot do better than publish the following communication from our Columbus correspondent.

Columbus, Dec. 8th, 1840.

Dr. Bailey:—The friends here are full of hope and zeal, though few in number, and all say, by no means dead, issuing your call for the convention—a place will be obtained. The legislature, and this city, will indeed I may safely say, that the entire state were never in a more favorable state to receive a mighty and ineffaceable and glorious impression; and abolition has never held in its hand such a tremendous amount of overwhelming moral and political power as at the present time. It is for every man and woman who has "borne the name of the SLAVE'S FRIEND, NOW to wield it—and WOE to him who will betray his trust at such a time as this.

Issue your call in thunder tones which will reach every nook and corner of the State, and let there be a grand rallying of the true and the tried, and of the mighty men of valor, who have within them the presentiment of victory. This convention will be the most important one by far that has ever been held in this State. For the sake of the slave, our country and posterity—for the sake of all that is merciful, and true, and eternal, let not this convention be a meagre one—a misrepresentation of the numerical and moral, and intellectual force of Ohio Abolitionism. I entreat abolitionists by all they hold dear in this world or the next, not to let the scarcity of money, the hardness of the times, or any heart-burnings, occasioned by the late political excitement, to deter them from gathering in their might at the contemplated convention; and be sure that our noble friends Blanchard, and Brisbane, and Morris, and Chase, and Birney, and Stanton, and Burleigh, or any other of our friends who can be procured are, here with all their armor, ready to contend most valiantly for the right.

Let our brethren see throughout the state that the notice is, without fail, put into as many of the political and religious papers as may be willing to publish it—let meetings of societies be immediately called, strong delegations appointed, means devised for defraying their expenses—but let none who feel disposed to come depend upon, or wait for these preliminaries. It would be well to meet as early in January as is consistent with a general notification of the time. In the meantime, by all honorable means, push the work of petitioning the legislature—secure the name of every man and woman in the State that can be obtained.

We have an open sea and a fine fair breeze; and now spread all your canvass; spare no effort especially between the present time and the meeting of the convention. As the number of petitions and signatures will greatly prepare the way for every application which the convention may make to the legislature.

Ever yours for the slave,
J. J.

NORTHERN OHIO IN MOTION.

Read the following call, and look at the names appended. Three Hundred Signers, and perhaps hundreds more, whose names were sent in too late for insertion. We are glad to recognize among the rest, Edward Wade, Esq., who, our readers will recollect, supported Gen. Harrison in the late election. Very many of the same class are now moving, and others will move.

From the Cleveland Agitator.

TO ALL LOVERS OF UNIVERSAL LIBERTY.

Human Rights, and Equal Laws!

The extension of the sacred boon of Freedom, of which equality is the essence, to all men and to all interests, is the great source of individual happiness and national prosperity. This is the fundamental principle of the Declaration of Independence, upon which our government was founded; but an opposite principle has been enacted upon our institutions. Under laws enacted by Congress, thousands of human beings are held in bondage and trafficked in as goods and chattels. The present political parties maintain principles opposed to Liberty. SLAVERY, the great cause of our national disorders, at this moment controls our country, pervades our legislation, directs our politics, dictates to the free, and shames us before the world. Therefore, as in duty bound, we have raised a voice, and a standard for Liberty. Were we certain of defeat, we would not less consider it our duty to spend our last breath in her cause. But joy to spend our last breath in her cause. This can never be. Our confidence is in the God of the oppressed. Our numbers are already sufficient, if united and energetic, to influence greatly the legislation of the country. If faithful to the cause, our numbers must, if we increase, till we are enabled to "break every yoke and let the oppressed go free." We seek no new thing. All that we ask is that equal application of acknowledged principles which constitutes genuine Democracy. Neither shall we be partial in our views, or engrossed with one subject. The same equal and exact justice which we would apply to the slave, we would extend to all interests and to all men.

We, therefore, invite all persons, of every sect, party, and condition, who are in favor of our objects, to meet us in Convention, which will be held for Northern Ohio at the village of Akron, Summit co., on Wednesday the 23rd of December, 1840, to discuss our principles, and

adopt measures for the promotion of the objects before us.

Dated at Cleveland, November 25, 1840.

COMMITTEE FOR 10TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT.

James H. Peine, John Curtis, G. K. Hawley, Ralph Plumb, J. H. Matthews, L. Bissell, Levi Smith.

Stark.—Brice S. Hunter.

Locust.—Charles Clapp, Geo. W. Apple, T. J. Keep, N. W. Coats, J. Jennings, H. C. Taylor, Lewis Helander, Charles Calkins, Thomas Winkles, J. W. Brown, Alvan Lewis, Simon Baynton, Anson Parish, Benjamin C. Sicker, Orrin Case, Hiram Fitch, Uriah Thompson, W. St. John, John Tompkins, Joel Towne, son, D. A. Williams, Isaac, J. B. Wadsworth, Teachout, George T. Phelps, L. A. Williams, F. W. Williams, James Wood, Jesse Calkins, C. G. Calkins, S. Lines, James Calkins.

Summit.—G. R. Hamlin, Ephraim Strong, Asahel Kilbourn, Hiram Thompson, J. M. Stanley, A. L. Edwards, Gideon Mills, George S. Smith, Christopher Johnson, Nathan Strong, Richard Dickinson, O. N. White, Owen Brown, Frederick Brown, Charles Aikin, James Rankin, James Burton, George Kilbourn, N. Rector, T. H. Goodwin, J. D. Pickards, H. W. King, W. E. Wright, W. W. Gorton, J. F. Covel, P. H. Centauris, Amel Miller, Lewis Miller, E. S. Phillips, James A. Barnes, S. P. Warner, Jonathan Lawrence, William Ward, Henry McMaster, Wm. Slightman, Edwin Ayres, Geo. M. Seaton, J. S. Wheeler, Philip Richards, Charles A. Wright, Thos. F. Master, P. M. Master, L. Samuel, Nelson Fuller, James Brown, Rufus Pierce, Samuel Coon, Robert Vashon, Robert Fawcett, W. D. Coon, Henry Taylor, Daniel S. Stanley, Seth Ely, Benjamin Shultz, Wm. Thurlow, Henry Jones, S. M. Stone, E. C. Sacket, E. V. Carter, Cassius Sacket, John Blakesley, John C. Root, John Wright, Richard B. Treat, Treat Penn, Philip Wright, Salmon Sacket, Vial, Vial, Fort Preston, Benjamin K. Mather, R. Chapman, D. Noye, E. J. A. Williams, J. H. Hand, H. C. Cogger, Russell Kent, F. Upson, H. A. Sacket, D. M. Laughton, John T. Sumner, James Welch, Elijah Curtis, Marshall Vial, Titus Chapman, R. M. Millan.

Portage.—Charles Clapp, L. W. Crittenden, D. M. Biddle, Lewis M. Hall, Albert Knowlton, Wm. Foljame, L. R. Hall, Geo. Lathrop, J. H. Newberry, Bradley L. Ayres, Henry E. Pratt, John Perkins, J. H. Hand, H. C. Newberry, W. T. Knowlton, J. M. Chapman, Edwin S. Beardsley, O. Miller, Simon Birge, John Springer, Edward Russell, Samuel Lee, Cyrus A. Shovel, A. P. Singletary, E. M. Stanton, David Lane, Geo. E. McJannet, James F. Farnham, Wm. Pease, Jr., David Bowerth, Alvin Upson, Joseph Demow, Jr., E. Pearson, C. Constock, E. Strong, H. H. Bilton, M. Strong, Wm. Coe, Henry Dewey, Yale Russell, H. Sanford, S. T. McNair, E. K. Vaughan, N. Beach, William Coe, James H. Williams, James Bates, John Haymaker, A. B. Root, Albert Blood, Dudley Williams, Almon Russell, Frederick Woodbridge, S. W. Burdett, Calvin Williams, Reuben Randall, Jr., Tyler Wright, Alexander Henderson, Samuel Bigelow, Almon Coe, Elmer Bodrick, George Sisson, Samuel Hastings, C. B. Curtis, C. L. Cullis, E. Wetmore, R. Loomis, M. Beach, H. W. Palmer, Pliny Cook, Lucius Catlin, Wm. H. Custer, R. L. Coe, E. D. Spees, J. W. Baldwin, John Bill, Amos Austin, Abraham Beach, Joel Dorman, Lonsdale Kellogg, Alphus Baldwin, C. G. Austin, E. Parsons, Wm. Hamilton, William Price, Ben. Mallary, Chester Stone, Edward Collins, A. L. Spencer.

Moravia.—Charles Olcott, G. W. Tyler, Abel Tracy, G. W. Cone, L. Hennessey, J. Woolcott, Andrews Hatch, E. L. Hills, Wm. Goff, Furmston, H. Blackner, Thomas Jones, Jr., Wm. Barnes, M. Morrell, Edward Wade, Wesley Wells, A. S. Hutchinson, Newel Bond, F. B. Penniman, Thomas Jones, J. M. Goodman, H. F. Drayton, George Manchester, T. S. Crosby, Milo Hickok, J. M. Sterling, W. W. Andrews, C. J. Lathrop, J. B. Rabbit, Wm. Adams, J. L. Aldrich, T. D. Sheldy, Asa Bady, E. Adams, M. Wimple, John Ruple, Cyrus Ruple, H. C. Burton, H. G. Townsends, Isaac Hewitt, T. S. Chase, T. Barnham, Samuel Holgate, G. P. Atkins, A. Kennedy, Wm. Hamilton, L. D. B. John Lockwood, Samuel Buxton, Russell Hawkins, L. Tomlinson, Benjamin Mastick, G. Tolhurst, Wm. Chard, N. C. Hills, A. Conger, G. W. Benjamin, T. H. Smead, Amos Pearson, Abraham Johnson, John Devos, Lyman Crawl, S. W. Sayles, Wm. Wheat, Isaac Hamilton, G. G. Golder, J. James Grant, Daniel Buxton, Seth H. Sheldon, Wm. H. Newton, Edgar Slaght, Nathaniel Voorhes, Wm. Fuller, Daniel Mallory, C. Thorp, G. Thorp, B. B. Biers, H. H. Coit, J. A. Marshall, J. B. Plumb, I. C. Roper, J. R. Roper, M. S. Mead, C. Crosby, Joseph Giddens, Wm. E. Wheat, J. A. Sayles, Simon Clark, T. H. Seldegwick, Amos Anthony, Thomas Clark, Erasmus Hopkins, Charles Thompson, Wm. K. Andrews, J. H. Hipple.

We are reluctantly compelled to put our form to press before receiving all the names which should have been inserted in it. We know of several long lists which have not come to hand. For these we should have delayed, had we not been fearful that sufficient time would not remain to circulate the notice properly.

We hope the Convention will see to it, that Northern Ohio is properly represented in the Columbus Convention. Many of them know how plentifully abolitionists turned out to attend the great political meetings in Columbus. Let us too have a mass meeting. Let every highway be darkened with the crowds of delegates to the great State Convention. We trust in the spirit of our northern friends.—Ed. Phil.

MEETING AT MR. BLANCHARD'S.

Last Friday night, the time appointed for our meeting at Mr. Blanchard's church, was an extremely inclement, rainy night. And yet the audience was highly respectable. We noticed a new class of persons there—many of the business men of the community, and several members of the bar. A growing desire is evinced, to attend our meetings. Some who were present on Friday, not abolitionists, wanted to know when we would hold another meeting; they wished to attend. The speakers, though they occupied nearly two hours with their several speeches, were listened to with the most profound attention.

KENTUCKY LEGISLATURE.

The Legislature of Kentucky assembled on the 7th instant, and organized. Manlius V. Thomson, Lieutenant Governor, took the chair of the senate as speaker. Mr. Stonestreet was elected clerk. The speaker of the house is Charles S. Morehead. Clerk, Samuel S. Helm. Tuesday the 8th, Governor Letcher transmitted his message to both houses. The finances of the state are in a very unfavorable condition. The expenses of the government for the year ending 10th of October, exceeded the revenue paid into the treasury. A deficiency has existed every year since 1833. It is estimated by proper officers that the current receipts will fall short of the expenditures the ensuing year by about seventeen thousand dollars. The governor avows himself in favor of a national bank, and recommends the legislature, at the earliest period, to furnish the senators and representatives of the state in congress, the most conclusive testimony of the wishes of their constituents on this point. Without comment, he lays before the legislature the copy of the preamble and resolutions passed by the legislature of Virginia, relative to the demand made by the executive of that state upon the executive of New York, for three fugitives from justice. No allusion is made to abolition in the message—no complaint made that the black law has failed of its object. This is somewhat singular, considering the tone of apprehension in which the governors of the other slave states, in their recent messages, have spoken of the movements of abolitionists.

INDIANA LEGISLATURE.

This body organized on the 7th instant. David Willis, lieutenant governor took the chair of the Senate. Douglas Maguire was elected principal secretary. Samuel Judah was chosen speaker of the house, and Jacob H. Hazen principal clerk.

We hope our friends in this state are urging the work of petitioning. The legislature is quite unlightened on the subject of abolition.

OHIO LEGISLATURE.

December 7th. Hon. W. M. Laughlin received 34 votes in the Senate, and was elected speaker. C. J. McNulty was duly elected clerk pro tem. Messrs. Spangler, Vance, and Hunt were appointed members of the committee on elections. Messrs. Thompson, Lord, and Uter were appointed a committee to examine the journals of the last session, and report on the unfinished business.

The House was called to order by Mr. Nye. Seabury Ford received 49 votes, and was chosen speaker. John M. Gallagher was elected clerk. Mr. Worthington gave notice that on to-morrow or some subsequent day of the session, he would ask leave to introduce a bill to repeal the 5th and 7th sections of the act further to amend the act to prohibit the issuing and circulation of unauthorized bank paper, passed January 27, 1816, and to repeal certain acts herein named.

December 8th, in the Senate, the memorial of J. C. Wright was presented, contesting the election of Geo. W. Holmes of Hamilton county, and referred to the committee on elections.

Mr. Thomas introduced resolutions that no bill for the incorporation of any literary institution; to divorce husband and wife; to incorporate any borough or town; to change the name of any person, place, or thing; no report from any committee of the senate, or any report of any of the state officers, &c., be printed without the direction of the senate. A motion to lay on the table was lost. It was renewed, carried, and the resolutions ordered to be printed.

In the House, Mr. Worthington, on leave, introduced a bill to repeal so much of the act therein named, as prohibits the reception by the county treasurers, of notes under five dollars; which was read the first time.

December 9th, in the senate, the following standing committees were announced.

On the Judiciary.—Messrs. Bissell, Thomas, and Harris.

On Finance.—Messrs. Spangler, Vance, and Leonard.

On Claims.—Messrs. Uter, Root, and Hostetter.

On Canals.—Messrs. Hunt, Godman, and Holmes.

On Railroads and Turnpikes.—Messrs. Patterson, Root and Mitchell.

On Roads and Highways.—Messrs. Scott, Sill, and Shannon.

On Colleges and Universities.—Messrs. Sill, Carpenter, and Mitchell.

On Agriculture, Commerce, and Manufactures.—Messrs. Thompson, Lord, and Ream.

On the Penitentiary.—Messrs. Leonard, Waddell, and Uter.

On the Library.—Messrs. Humphreys, Crowell, and Glover.

On Public Lands.—Messrs. Hunt, Waddell, and Carpenter.

On Schools and School Lands.—Messrs. Hough, Lord, and Scott.

On New Counties.—Messrs. Harris, Nash, and Patterson.

On Military Affairs.—Messrs. Crowell, Goodin, and Hamilton.

On Medical Colleges and Societies.—Messrs. Glover, Perkins, and Barret.

On the Currency.—Messrs. Faran, Green, and Taylor.

On Public Buildings.—Messrs. Green, Shannon, and Hunt.

On Public Institutions.—Messrs. Henderson, Humphreys, and Perkins.

On Corporations.—Messrs. Holmes, Henderson, and Goodin.

Mr. Nash was appointed on the committee on elections, in place of Mr. Vance, who asked to be excused from serving.

Mr. Taylor offered the following preamble and resolutions, which were read and laid on the table.

Resolved, That the public mind has become justly alarmed at the numerous instances of fraud in the late elections; and whereas, it is the duty of the legislative power to guard, by every possible means against encroachments on the sanctity of the ballot box; and also, whereas, the condition of the constitution of others, cannot fail to be highly gratifying to the public, as furnishing the best evidence of the usefulness of the institution, and the blessings it is destined to confer on an unfortunate class of our citizens in time to come.

The condition of the Ohio Penitentiary is as favorable as could be desired. The present indefatigable Warden is entitled to great credit for his ability and attention in superintending this institution. Under his care and management, its fiscal affairs are in a more prosperous condition than they ever have been. The total cash receipts the last year, ending November 30th, 1840, will be, say \$44,000. Total cash payments, \$27,000; leaving a net balance of \$17,000. The whole amount of the earnings of the institution will be \$52,000. This will deduct the expenditures for general support, &c., and there will be a balance of \$25,000 over the expenses. The number of convicts confined in the Penitentiary on the 30th of November last, was four hundred and eighty-eight. The general health of the prison has been unusually good the last year, having lost but four by death. This favorable result has been owing, in a great degree, to the skill and strict attention of the Physician having charge of this institution.

In pursuance of the act entitled, "An act relating to the management and sale of certain Canal Lands of the State of Ohio," passed March 19th, 1838, I appointed in April last, John A. Bryan, Esq., a special agent to proceed to Washington city, in order to procure from the proper authorities, a final decision in relation to the several grants made by the General Government to the State of Ohio for canal purposes. The report of the special agent, which is herewith transmitted, and to which I invite your special attention, will give you a full and satisfactory statement as to the character of the claim of the State, and the decision of the law officer of the government on the same. I am happy to be able to state, that the opinion of the Attorney General of the U. S., fully sustains the legal claim of Ohio, in every particular, and that the decision we will obtain an additional quantity of land under the Wabash and Erie canal grant, of not far short of fifty thousand acres.

I would respectfully call your attention to the subject of our canal lands, and recommend that you attend to their sale. The quantity of these lands renders them an object worthy of consideration in various points of view. The aggregate quantity of Miami canal land now owned by the State is 135,699 acres; and of the Wabash and Erie canal land, including the amount of the rich and fertile region of country where it is situated. I would suggest the policy of putting in market at least each alternate quarter or half of quarter section. In this way you would encourage the settlement and improvement of the country, add health to its resources, and at the same time double the value, at an early period, of the remaining lands owned by the State. This measure would seem to me dictated by justice towards the actual settlers in the sections of country where our canal lands are situated, as well as the pecuniary interests of the State.

In obedience to a resolution of the 23d of March last, I appointed John Brough, Esq., a special agent for the purpose of procuring a settlement, at the Treasury of the

amount subject to interest \$13,724,765 98 0

The amount that will be required to complete the public works is estimated by the acting commissioners, at \$2,438,000 00 0

The total amount of revenue this year is \$306,498 28 2

The amount of bills redeemed at the treasury \$222,407 73

Transferred to canal and state common school fund 72,783 21 9

Balance in the treasury \$11,407 34 3

The amount of the state common school fund subject to distribution is \$200,000 00 0

Virginia military school fund 12,263 08 0

United States military school fund 7,065 80 8

Section sixteen interest 50,351 58 7

Connecticut Western Reserve Fund 9,619 34 0

Total school fund \$385,200 01 5

The receipts for the national road have been \$51,422 94 0

The payments on the same \$1,392 02 0

Balance in the Treasury 60 32

The amount of tolls, fines, and water rents on the several public works, after deducting repairs, superintendence and awards of damages, is as follows:

Ohio canal \$259,212 00 0

Miami canal 40,973 56 0

Miami canal extension 4,454 50 0

Kingling Valley canal 1,898 14 0

Muskingum improvement 1,687 69 0

Turnpike dividends 16,555 93 0

Total \$354,781 83 2

The Hocking Valley canal and Muskingum improvement have been in operation but a few months. The Warren county canal has not paid costs of collection and contingencies. The increase of tolls received from public works this, over last year, is \$31,369.

Our public works have progressed during this year, with a rapidity and success fully equal to our expectations. The embarrassments which were anticipated in the spring as likely to result from the difficulty in obtaining money to meet our engagements on the public works, have not been experienced, except to a limited extent.

Since the opening of the Ohio canal for navigation in the spring, very little interruption has been experienced. Notwithstanding the very great deficiency in the imports, which ought not to be a matter of regret, the exports have so much increased that the revenue derived from tolls has far exceeded the most sanguine expectations.

The limited appropriation of last winter prevented the completion of the Wabash canal this season; but should a small appropriation be made during the present session, this work can be completed early next summer.

The Hocking Valley canal is so far completed as to permit the opening of the navigation in the spring. It is about fifteen miles above the town of Athens, the point of termination. Boats laden with coal, salt, and other products of the valley have passed through this canal to different parts on the Ohio canal. Of the remaining fifteen miles of this line, one fourth of the work is done. The Muskingum improvement is so far completed that flat boats are enabled to pass from the foot of the dam above M'Connellsville to the Ohio canal at Dresden. Should future payments be promptly made to the contractors, this improvement can be completed early in the ensuing summer.

One half of the whole length of the Wabash and Erie canal, in detached portions, has been completed; and it is confidently expected that the whole line of this improvement will be finished by the first of November, 1841. During the month of September last, the water was let into an eighteen mile level, between the head of the rapids and Maumee city, on which a portion of the canal boats are now running.

Fifteen miles of the Western Reserve and Maumee road west of the Portage river are completed; and a seven inch course of metal has been put on ten miles of the road east of Portage river, leaving but five miles between Lower Sandusky and Perryburgh not covered with stone.

The Miami Canal has done a more profitable business this year than any former one—the net profits arising from the tolls exceeding six per cent. on the total cost of construction.

The Miami Canal extension has all heretofore been put under contract except thirty-three miles at the northern end, which is easy of construction, and will cost less, in proportion, than any other part of the work. To complete the whole line will require an additional appropriation of about one million of dollars.

The National road is in good repair, and much improved since the last year. This amount received from tolls is less than it was last year by \$11,053 16. This is not owing to the diminution of the travel on the road, but to reduction of tolls, which was much demanded by the public.

The report of the Board of Public Works will give you a more detailed and satisfactory statement of the condition of our public works, than the limits of this communication will allow me to do.

There are about seventy-five pupils in the Deaf and Dumb Asylum at this time, being a small increase on last year. The institution is moving forward steadily and successfully in accomplishing the high object for which it was established—that of bestowing moral and intellectual culture on that portion of our community who by the mysterious dispensation of Providence, are deprived of the advantages which others enjoy, and whose minds can not be reached by the ordinary methods of instruction.

The Institution for the Instruction of the Blind is in a flourishing and prosperous condition, in all its departments. The number of pupils is thirty-two, being an increase of thirteen since the last annual report. Their improvement in the various studies and mechanic branches that are taught has been highly satisfactory, and gives the most gratifying evidence of the practicability of instructing the blind, and of the benevolence of the legislature.

In the Lunatic Asylum, one hundred and one insane persons have been admitted during the last year, and fifty-three have been restored to the use of their reason, and discharged, to enjoy the privileges and blessings of society. The Asylum is now full, and a number of applications pending from different counties in the State, which, if granted, would increase the number of inmates. It is gratifying to know that the spirit of inquiry is active and awake on this important subject. The expense of such an undertaking, I was aware, would prove an objection, but it is hoped and believed that gentleman competent to the task could be obtained by the payment of their personal expenses, which need not exceed three hundred dollars. I would suggest the raising of five cents from each individual. Cannot twelve hundred persons in Ohio be found who will instantly give that sum? Surely the nine hundred and three upright and honest men, and as many women, who, at the late election, refused to cast their votes for a slaveholder, or a person pledged to sustain and uphold the slave system in our country, would, at once, each give his twenty-five cents. This would we commence the work on a sure foundation; and it is presumed that hundreds would give the like sum to obtain the information such committee would be able to afford. But it need not be understood that such donations would be the only means, ladies and gentlemen could contribute what each in their judgment should think proper. Permit me further to suggest, that it is in contemplation to hold an Anti-Slavery Convention at Columbus, Ohio, and as the Anti-Slavery Convention of Clermont County has recommended an early day for that purpose, which, if not generally acceded to, I hope that another day, as early as convenient, will be fixed upon, and I trust that every county in the state will send delegates. Would it not be well for such delegates to bring with them whatever sum may be contributed for the purpose herein mentioned, and if a sufficient amount be obtained, then the Convention to appoint a delegate to proceed immediately to Washington, on receiving information that the Anti-Slavery men in any two of the other states have appointed a like delegate.

I am one of those who believe that action suitable to the attainment of an object must always be had before the object be obtained. I have no confidence in faith without works. Go free our country from the oppression and curse of slavery, much must be done; to do that work aright, competent knowledge of the subject must be had. Slavery is all around and among us. It exists not only in those states whose constitutions and laws sustain it, but it exists to an alarming extent by connivance and fraud upon the ignorant slave, even in the free states, and I am satisfied, from recent facts which have come to my knowledge, it exists in our own city; you know the facts to which I allude, and I have no doubt will concur with me in opinion. There is another extraordinary fact, a part of this pyramid of human abominations; it is wealthy persons in the free states owning slaves in the slaveholding states, and some have large numbers of them. Our own constitution prohibits the existence of slavery amongst us, except as a punishment for crime; it views slavery as a great political evil and a violent personal wrong, and only justifiable as a punishment for crime. Can he then be considered friendly to our constitution who is the owner of slaves, though he keeps them in another state? Is not such act, morally speaking at least, treason against the constitution and sovereignty of Ohio, and is it not worthy of consideration that it should be made penal by our laws, and the person convicted thereof be deprived of all his civil and political rights? Let it not be said that we have no power over offences in another state; this is admitted; but

United States, of our three per cent. fund. The very satisfactory report of the special agent, which is herewith transmitted, and to which I invite your attention, will give all the information on this subject that you may desire.

The collated names, offered to the general assembly, at their last session to be printed, will not be published as soon as was expected, owing partly to unavoidable delay in procuring paper, and partly to the nature of the work. As soon as the paper was received, in the latter part of the month of July last, a power press, procured expressly for the purpose, and three or four hand presses were put upon the work, and about five hundred pages have been printed. All reasonable efforts have been made to hasten the publication, consistent with careful revision of the sheets, and proper attention to the press work. Thus far, the typographical execution is highly creditable to the officer engaged in the publication.

The old penitentiary has been fitted up, under the supervision of the quartermaster general, as an arsenal. The public arms are now deposited in it, and consist of the following military stores: 3,450 muskets, 3,860 acts of equipments, 1,922 rifles and accoutrements, 4,044 pistols, 3,277 sabres and accoutrements, 130 carbines and equipments, and eight new iron cannon and six old ones. All the above public arms were received during last year, and fall, except the cannon, sabres, pistols and equipments, which were received in 1838-9, and are now for distribution under the law. The quartermaster general has not been furnished with correct and full reports from all the divisions, so as to enable him to make that equitable apportionment contemplated by the law.

In my last annual message, I took occasion to call the attention of the general assembly to the subject of re-organizing the militia law of this State, and restore to its original condition the present militia system, which, in my judgment, should be remedied; to which I would beg leave to refer you for my view on this subject.

It is admitted by all, that our present militia system is greatly defective, and has entirely failed to secure the great object in view—a well organized militia.

Farmers who wish to dispose of their estates, can, by early application to me, have the advantage of an extensive advertisement of their property in English and German, both in the United States and Europe, without cost to them, unless sales be effected.

THOMAS EMERY, JR.

